

*A Year of Building: New Library, Community Support and Great Service*

# Erving Public Library



## Annual Report 2019



## ***Building the New Library: Progress***

Working together we are Building a Better Library & Creating a Better Erving!

By the end of 2019, the new library project was 95% complete. Johnson/Roberts



Associates under the direction of their project architect Philip O'Brien saw their design concept take shape as Marois Construction guided the crew through every step. P3, Inc. project managers: Dan Pallotta, Rob Todisco and Nick Jablonski actively oversaw the project, reporting any change orders to the Library Building Committee and Town Officials for a vote.

The Library was originally funded at a cost of Four Million, Nine Hundred Thirty-three Thousand, Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$4,933,007.00) with the MBLC Construction grant contributing \$2,722,627 and the town contributing \$2,210,380. Due to the higher than anticipated cost of construction of \$3,837,000, the addition of a generator \$65,000 and the original estimate for solar (PV Array) of \$325,000, the budget for furniture and equipment (FF&E) was eliminated.

### ***Fundraising for the New Library***

To supplement the FF&E budget, private citizens and businesses contributed nearly \$30,000, mainly due to the efforts of the Fundraising Committee, who encouraged monetary donations and held fundraising events and sold items. (See a description under Programs at other Venues in this report.)

### ***Special Town Meeting***

To guarantee completion of the project, an additional special town meeting vote was taken on June 25, 2019 adding \$550,000 bringing the Town's share to \$2,760,380. However, the photovoltaic array project was divided into two stages with site work being done by Marois Construction for \$29,101.31 and the photovoltaic array after rebid saving the town over \$100,000.

### ***Opening***

The new Library will open on March 1, 2020. The Grand Opening will be March 29, 2020, exactly one year from the Groundbreaking Ceremony.

## **B**uilding Community and Connections

The Erving Library provides a space where people meet neighbors and make friends. In addition, the Library offers great opportunities for service through joining the following:

### ***Friends of the Library***

President: Rebecca Hubbard, Vice President: Dulcie McAndrews, Treasurer: Arlene Wonsey, Board Members: Carol Gregory and Geraldine Cornwell. The Friends of the Library working in conjunction with the Fundraising Committee helped to raise over \$10,000 for the building project as well as to sustain the organization's main goals to fund library supplies, promote library events and sponsor programming.

### ***Volunteers***

The Library Staff is assisted by many residents that offer countless hours of volunteerism without want of recognition. We also are grateful to all of those who donate books and other media and plants for the annual sale.

The following volunteers devote regular and often daily assistance to the Library staff:

Ann Lucas, now completing her 10<sup>th</sup> year at the Library

Maggie Fidanza developed and offered monthly craft days for the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year.

Becky Hubbard and Arlene Wonsey offered holiday craft days and assisted at other craft days.

### ***Committees***

The Library Building Committee (in alphabetical order): Marcia Bernard, Librarian; Jacquelyn Boyden, Town Assistant Assessor; Sara Campbell, Consulting Civil Engineer; Rebecca Hubbard, EPL Friends President; Peter "Rupert" Roy-Clark, Trustee and Supervisor of UMass and Amherst Physical Plants; Deb Smith, Finance and Planning Boards; Charles Zilinski, Telecommunication Technician/Electrical Apprentice and Finance Board; Cynthia Roy-Clark, student member in 2018 was unable to serve in 2019.

The Library Building Committee was assisted by Barbara Friedman, Library Director; The P3, Inc. project management team of Daniel Pallotta, Rob Todisco and Nick Jablonski; Phil O'Brien, LEED AP Principal, and Stewart Roberts, AIA Principal, architects with Johnson/Roberts Associates. William Bembury and Scott Bastarache, Board of Selectmen, liaisons to this Committee and Mackensy Bailey, Erving Library Trustee Chairperson.

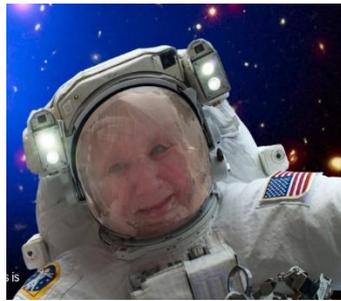
The Fundraising Committee (in alphabetical order): Beth Bazler, Marcia Bernard, Jacqueline Boyden, Sara Campbell, Holly Fitzpatrick, Rob Fletcher, Teresa Foster, Barbara Friedman, Rebecca Hubbard, Rupert Roy-Clark and Phyllis Stone.

### ***In Cooperation with Other Agencies***

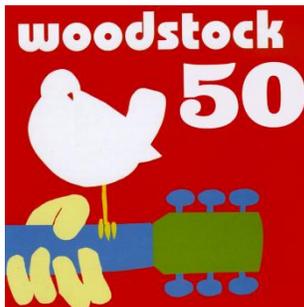
The Erving Library is a member of the following agencies: the Massachusetts Library System (MLS), which provides twice weekly delivery and other services; the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS) network which connects the library to the regional online catalog and provides digital content; the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) which provides construction money, the Commonwealth Catalog, databases and direct state aid. These agencies and the Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA) also provide consulting services, staff continuing education and contribute to the summer reading program. Participation in these various groups adds value to the services provided through local funding.

### ***In Cooperation with other Town Departments***

The staff and the Friends of the Erving Library work with local committees and departments to share resources, facilities, and programming opportunities. This includes programs offered at other Town buildings and other locations in with assistance from state and regional agencies.



### ***Programs held at the Senior/Community Center***



- Virtual Reality Moon Walk
- Woodstock Revisited
- Summer Evening Line Dancing for Seniors
- Friends Craft Days
- Sheryl Faye as Abigail Adams sponsored by the Friends of the Library
- End of Summer Reading Prize Party

- Museum of Science visits from Boston to present *Rockets: There and Back Again*

### ***Programs at the Erving Elementary School***

- Sheryl Faye performing as Helen Keller sponsored by the Friends of the Erving Library and the Erving Elementary School Library
- Class visits for summer reading



## ***Programs at the Library in 2019***

- Author Rachel Hodges shares *Gingerly*, her newly published book in hardcopy and ebook
- Book Discussion: *Stranger in the Woods*
- Author David Brule spoke about his book



- *Looking for Judah: Adventures in Genealogy and Remembrance*
- Annual Friends of the Erving Library Plant Book and Media Sale
- John Burk, the author of the recently published AMC'S Best Day Hikes in Central Massachusetts shares maps
- Author August Thomas spoke about her bestseller: *Liars Candle*
- Coding and Robotic activities for third and fourth graders
- Series of science programs as part of STEAM enrichment for early grades
- Professor Salman Hameed Discussion: *Extraterrestrials*
- 200 individuals participated in the 2019 Summer of Space Reading Program
- *Escaping the Shuttle: An Escape Room Adventure for Families*
- Lego building sessions
- Crazy 8s Math Club
- Halloween Open House

## ***Programs/Fundraising Events at other Venues***

- Friends of the Library Town-wide Tag Sale Annual Fundraiser
- Tales and Tunes supported by the Erving Cultural Council at Riverfront Park
- Mother's Day Flower Sale Fundraiser at Weatherheads
- Hike to Hermits Cave with Harry and Susan Sharbaugh
- Library Libations: A Spirited Night at Element Brewing in Millers Falls Fundraiser featuring Rob Fletcher
- Savory Suppers at Atkins Farmstand, Fundraiser for New Library
- Garden Tool Sharpening with Teresa Foster, Master Gardener
- Scrafty: Sign-Making, a Fundraiser for the new Erving Library
- KLR Photography Sessions Fundraising Event.
- Friends of the Library Pumpkin Painting in the Park at the Fall Festival

# Building on Public Service

## Staff

Barbara Friedman, Library Director

- Barbara Friedman has completed her 11<sup>th</sup> year at the Erving Public Library. Among her accomplishments are:
  - Participated in planning and grant administration for the building of a new library
  - With Committee input and the aid of vendors representatives, selected over \$100,000 worth of furniture and equipment for the new library
  - Lead “large donation” drive for new library, netting over \$20,000 in contributions and pledges.
- Added nearly 800 items to the Library’s collection & added digital services.
- Successful grants added to library operational budget for FY20
  - Massachusetts Cultural Council for new library \$2,500
  - Small Libraries in Networks \$2,100.
  - State Aid to Libraries \$2,244

Jean Daley, Senior Library Assistant

- Jean Daley has completed her 7th year at the Erving Public Library.
- Developed and offered STEM programming in math skills, coding and robotics
- Wrote successful grants:
  - Jordan Miller Storytelling
  - Eduporium
  - Girls that Code
- Supervised staff and volunteers
- Worked toward her para-librarian status
- Selected 500 items from the collection for temporary storage in the Town Hall until the new library opens

Andrea DeIuliis, Library Assistant

- Andrea DeIuliis completed her first year at the Erving Public Library.
- Currently works at two other libraries (Bernardston Elementary School and Tilton Library in South Deerfield) not only enriching her library experience but sharing this knowledge with Erving patrons.
- Enlisted speakers for library programs
- Assumed the role of adding new acquisitions to the Evergreen system (C/W MARS)
- Andrea has applied to be a candidate for a Masters Degree in Library and Information Science at Simmons University. She hopes to start her studies in the fall of 2020.

We want to thank our newest member of our maintenance crew, Pamela McNamara, and also Glenn McCorry, Becca Walsh for helping with our aging building. And our sincerest thank you to all Town Departments who help the Library succeed in so many ways and especially to Bryan Smith and Betsy Sicard, who are always there to help and find solutions to any problem.

*Building the numbers*

## Building New and Existing Services

The Erving Public Library (EPL) reaches many people through Facebook several times each week: 450 people are followers.

EPL offers 24/7 service through the C/W MARS online catalog at <https://catalog.cwmars.org/eg/opac/home>

The Library offers other digital resources. See Erving's website at <https://www.erving-ma.gov/erving-public-library> for links to databases, historical photos, streaming videos, digital music, ebooks and audiobooks offered through the services of Gale, Freegal, Overdrive (Libby) and Hoopla.



\*Digital content adds hundreds of thousands of items to the Erving Library Collection

### ***Annual Statistics for 2019***

- The Erving Library is open 30 hours per week Sunday through Thursday, 1-7 pm
- 934 people held a Erving Public Library card in 2019.
- 12,251 items comprised the Library's collection at the end of 2019, including DVDs, Music CDs, Audiobooks on CD, and books for children, teens and adults.
- 15,278 items valued at \$217,717 were checked out at the Erving Library desk in 2019
- 2928 items were borrowed by Erving residents from other libraries and 3,151 were sent to other libraries in FY19 through the Massachusetts Library System in 2019.

***Erving Public Library's Mission is to Help Make Erving a Great Place to Live!***

Prepared by Barbara Friedman, MLIS, Library Director

Respectfully submitted,  
Mackensy Bailey, Chairperson  
Rupert Roy-Clark, Secretary  
Dan Hammock